GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3625 ANSWERED ON 10th AUGUST, 2023

MANDATORY SAFETY AUDITS

3625. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism to ensure mandatory safety audits on new and existing roadways;

(b) the measures taken to establish and maintain trauma care centres in districts through which high speed expressways are constructed for prompt response in case of road accidents; and

(c) the details of accountability fixed by NHAI for the increasing numbers of accidents and deaths on newly built highways, e.g., the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Road Safety audit (RSA) is an essential part of any National Highway development project. RSA is carried out at different stages namely during design, construction and before issue of completion certificate of the project. Detailed guidelines for carrying out Road Safety audits and implementing the audit recommendations for National Highway Projects have been issued from time to time.

(b) The Government of India has taken initiatives towards setting up of Trauma Care Facilities (TCFs) along the national highways with an overall objective to bring down preventable deaths due to road accidents. During the 11th Five-year Plan, under the scheme namely 'Assistance for Capacity Building for Developing Trauma Care Facilities in Govt. Hospitals on National Highways', financial assistance was provided to States/Union Territories (UTs) for upgrading/ strengthening trauma care facilities in identified Government Hospitals/Medical Colleges. The scheme continued during 12th Five Year Plan as 'Capacity Building for Developing Trauma Care Facilities in Government. The Programme continued beyond 12th Five Year Plan as 'National Programme for Prevention and Management of Trauma and Burn Injuries' wherein Trauma Care Facilities identified during 11th and 12th Five Year Plan are being supported.

(c) The Vehicles are over speeding beyond the limit even up to speeds of 150-160 Kmph in some cases and changing lanes or overtaking at such high speeds frequently, which led to accidents on the Bangalore – Mysore Access Controlled Highway.

Steps taken -

- Speed limit sign boards have been installed at regular intervals all along the Highway as per IRC guidelines.
- Additional informatory boards at all the entry-exit locations are also provided for the guidance to the travelers.
- 4 nos of route patrolling vehicles (2 in each package) are placed on the project stretch. Camera surveillance has been provided.
- Overhead informatory Variable Message Sign (VMS) have been provided to avoid over speeds and take utmost precautions to avoid accidents.
- 2-wheelers, 3-wheelers and other slow-moving vehicles like nonmotorized vehicles, agricultural tractors (with or without trailers) have been prohibited from using the Bangalore-Mysuru Access Controlled Highway.
- Road Safety Committee for safety inspection of Bengaluru-Mysuru Access Controlled Highway has been constituted by NHAI.
- The State Police Department has enforced speed limit with Interceptors.

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